

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2342

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 19912

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. EGON LOEBNER'S COMPUTER WAS DISPATCHED DECEMBER 18 PA
FLIGHT 45 AWB 555/146294 TO U.S. DESPATCH AGENT N Y.
FOR DR LOEBNER 2934 ALEXIS DRIVE, PALO ALTO.

2. WE REALLY DON'T VERY MUCH LIKE THE COURSE OF ACTION
PROPOSED IN BERN'S 5781 (GETTING BUKOVSKIY'S BOOKS TO THE
WEST). WE WOULD OF COURSE BE VIOLATING POUCH REGULATIONS,
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY WE THINK THAT THIS COULD HAVE AN
EFFECT ON THE REST OF OUR WORK HERE AMONG DISSIDENTS. IT
SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT WE COULD GET THE BOOKS OUT OF THE
FLAT AND TO THE EMBASSY WITHOUT THE AUTHORITIES FINDING
OUT ABOUT EITHER THEN OR LATER. THIS GIVES THEM A READY-
MADE ISSUE IN RESERVE FOR THE FUTURE, IF THEY CHOOSE NOT TO
USE IT IMMEDIATELY. THERE IS ALSO THE FACT THAT WE WOULD
PROBABLY BE VIOLATING SOVIET LEGISLATION CONCERNING THE
EXPORT OF ANTIQUITIES.

2. PERHAPS AFTER BUKOVSKIY ARRIVED IN THE U.S. HE
COULD ASK US FORMALLY TO APPROACH THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES
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FOR PERMISSION TO GET THE BOOKS SHIPPED OUT. (WE WOULD
BE HAPPY TO HELP). ALTERNATIVELY, IF BUKOVSKIY IS
PLANNING TO STAY IN SWITZERLAND FOR A WHILE, THE SWISS
MIGHT BE PREPARED TO APPROACH THE AUTHORITIES WITH A SIMILAR
REQUEST.

3. WE CAN MAKE THESE POINTS IN THE OPEN CHANNEL IF YOU THINK THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL. IN ANY CASE, WE DEFER TO YOUR JUDGMENT IN THIS MATTER.

4. RE PARA 8, STATE 307464, MAC GRAY COMMENTS AS FOLLOWS: THE BOOK "GRAZHDANSKAYA OBOBONA" HAS NOT BEEN SEEN IN MOSCOW BOOKSTORES FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THE BOOK MIGHT BE FOR SALE USED, BUT HAVEN'T CHECKED. DID NOTE THAT ONE COPY, AGAIN USED, WAS AVAILABLE IN KIEV POLITKNIGA IN EARLY DECEMBER. AS YOU KNOW, MOST BOOKS ARE SOLD OUT WITHIN SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AFTER THEY ARE PUT ON SALE. ALL BOOKS CONCERNING CD ARE ALSO IN THAT CATEGORY TO MY KNOWLEDGE. ALTHOUGH I HAVE SEEN SEVERAL BOOKS ISSUED OVER THE PAST 18 MONTHS, I CAN'T RECALL ANY OF THEM GETTING ANY SPECIAL BILLING, OR BEING AVAILABLE IN LARGER THAN NORMAL QUANTITIES. I THINK IT COULD BE QUITE SAFELY STATED THAT VERY LITTLE ON CIVIL DEFENSE IS FOR SALE IN THE BOOKSTORES. PERHAPS ALL THEIR MATERIALS ARE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH DOSAAF ORGANIZATIONS.

5. REGARDING YOUR QUESTION IN STATE 302532 ON THE AEROFLOT FLIGHT TO WASHINGTON ON DECEMBER 6, OUR SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON SUCH MATTERS, PANAM REP DRAHORAD, WAS UNABLE TO GET A SATISFACTORY ANSWER ON WHETHER THE FLIGHT WAS DELAYED FOR TEN HOURS DUE TO POOR WEATHER CONDITIONS. HE SAID THAT THE NECESSARY RECORDS ARE NOT READILY AVAILABLE AND HIS INQUIRIES DID NOT PRODUCE A DEFINITIVE ANSWER.

6. WE HAVE ANOTHER ARMENIAN CPSU CASE, THAT OF YERVAND ARTASHESOVICH GEVOGLANYAN, WHO UNDER NORMAL CRITERIA CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD BE CONSIDERED INVOLUNTARY. HE IS SIMPLE, APOLITICAL CHURCH-GOING CARPENTER, WHO JOINED PARTY IN 1967, BECAUSE AS A "GOOD WORKER," HE WAS ASKED TO JOIN; HE WAS THROWN OUT OF THE PARTY IN JULY 1976, WHEN HE APPLIED FOR EXIT PERMISSION. HIS SALARY WENT FROM CIRCA 80 RUBLES AS NON-PARTY MEMBER TO 90-95 RUBLES PER MONTH AS CPSU MEMBER, A SALARY RISE WHICH DESPITE ITS INCONSEQUENCE, INS, ROME MIGHT VERY WELL CONSIDER DAMNING. SINCE GEVOGLANYAN HAS A SISTER WHO EMIGRATED TO THE U.S. SIX YEARS AGO, SHE MAY POSSIBLE BE A CITIZEN QUALIFIED TO FILE A FIFTH-PREFERENCE PETITION HIS BEHALF, THEREBY ENABLING US TO SEND AO REQUEST TO DEPT. INSTEAD OF INS, ROME. WE WOULD THEREFORE BE GRATEFUL, IF YOU WOULD CHECK THE MATTER OUT WITH THE SISTER: MRS. EUGENIE KALOUSDIAN, 1938 N. VAN NESS AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, 90068. PLEASE INFORM US OF THE RESULTS OF YOUR EFFORTS SO THAT WE MAY PROCEED ACCORDINGLY.

7. FOR LEN WILLEMS, CLIFF GROSS AND WIFE WILL BE IN

WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 13 - 27. PLEASE MAKE RESERVATION FOR THEM AT COLUMBIA PLAZA, OR SIMILARLY WELL-LOCATED PLACE FOR THE PERIOD (CHECK FOR DEPOSIT IS ENROUTE TO LEN). UNLESS YOU THINK IT'S NOT WORTH ATTENDING, PLEASE ADD ON TO LIST OF APPOINTMENTS FOR CLIFF THE TWO-DAY ANTI-TERRORIST COURSE, SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 14 - 15, AND LET US KNOW WHERE AND AT WHAT TIME HE MUST APPEAR FOR FIRST SESSION.

8. RE CHAKOVSKY VISA, RAY BENSON FEELS THAT VISA REFUSAL IN RETALIATION FOR FASCELL WOULD BE UNWISE SINCE CHAKOVSKY GOING TO U.S. TO OPEN LITGAZ OFFICE IN N.Y. AND NOT IN CONNECTION WITH CSCE MATTERS. HE FEELS THAT TO REFUSE HIM WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH INFORMATION FACILITATION PROVISIONS OF FINAL ACT. MY OWN VIEW, HOWEVER, IS SAME AS DEPARTMENT'S: SINCE HE IS SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTY AND FURTHERMORE ON CSCE COMMISSION, I WOULD CONSIDER HIM IDEAL FOR RETALIATION. HOWEVER, I PROMISED RAY THAT I WOULD PASS ON HIS VIEW.
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